

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please change the abstract as follows:

A communication system with multiple clusters ~~(100,~~
~~105)~~ connected through gateways ~~(107, 108)~~ is provided. The
first cluster ~~(100)~~ has a controlled device ~~(103)~~, for which an
abstract representation (AR) ~~(104)~~ is provided as interface on
a controlling device ~~(102)~~. To facilitate an application device
~~(111)~~ in the second cluster ~~(105)~~ interacting with the AR
~~(104)~~, the system has a near proxy ~~(109)~~ in the first cluster
~~(100)~~ and a far proxy ~~(110)~~ in the second cluster ~~(105)~~. The
application device ~~(111)~~ can interact with the AR ~~(104)~~ via the
far proxy ~~(110)~~, which communicates with the near proxy ~~(109)~~,
which in turn interacts with the AR ~~(104)~~. Results are sent
back to the application device ~~(111)~~ in a similar fashion.
~~Using the above mechanism, a whole tree or chain of proxies can~~
~~be constructed.~~ An application device ~~(205)~~ on a third cluster
~~(200)~~ can interact with the AR ~~(104)~~ via a further far proxy
~~(204)~~, which communicates with a further near proxy ~~(203)~~ which
in turn communicates with the far proxy ~~(110)~~ ~~which further~~
~~communicates as above.~~

Fig. 2